

Claims

1. A method for the calibration of an electronic camera located at a local site, comprising the steps of:

- 5 (a) presenting an optical stimulus to the camera;
- (b) acquiring at least one image of said optical stimulus by the camera;
- (c) transmitting said at least one image via telecommunication means from said local site to a
10 remote site; and
- (d) evaluating said at least one image at said remote site.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said optical
15 stimulus is transmitted (via telecommunication means from said remote site to said local site.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said optical stimulus comprises at least one image and is presented to the
20 camera by an image presentation device located at said local site.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said image presentation device is selected from the group consisting of a
25 video monitor, a computer monitor, a slide projector, a transparency projector, an overhead projector, and a printed-paper projector.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein prior to
30 acquiring the image of said optical stimulus (step (b)), parameters influencing the camera behavior are selected at said remote site and transmitted via telecommunication means from said remote site to said local site.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein parameters influencing the camera properties are determined at said remote site, the determination depending on the evaluation of said at least one image (step (d)), and transmitted via
5 telecommunication means from said remote site to said local site.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the evaluation of said at least one image (step (d)) results in a decision
10 whether the camera properties are satisfactory or not.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein, in case of unsatisfactory camera properties, the method according to any of the previous claims is repeated in order to determine new
15 parameters influencing the camera properties.

9. The method according to claim 7, wherein, in case of satisfactory camera properties, the method according to any of the previous claims is repeated in order to verify the
20 validity of the camera configuration.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein said telecommunication means are electronic and/or optical telecommunication means and preferably comprise a worldwide
25 data transmission network such as the internet, a leased or switched telephone line, or an optical data link.

11. The method according to claim 1, wherein a local controller/interface device is located at said local site
30 between the camera and said telecommunication means.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein said local controller/interface device is connected to the camera via an output data interface and an input data interface.

13. The method according to claim 3, wherein said local controller/interface device controls said image presentation device.

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14. The method according to claim 13, wherein said local controller/interface device is connected to said image presentation device via a video interface.

10 15. The method according to claim 1, wherein an expert is located at said remote site and controls the performance of the method according to any of the previous claims, said expert being a human person and/or an electronic controlling device.

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16. The method according to claim 15, wherein a remote controller/interface device is located at said remote site between said expert and said telecommunication means.

20 17. An arrangement for the calibration of an electronic camera, comprising

means for placing the camera located at a local site;

an image presentation device located at a local site;

means for evaluating an image acquired by the camera, said

25 image-evaluating means being located at a site remote from said local site;

means for determining parameters influencing the camera properties, depending on the evaluation of said image, said parameter-determining means being located at a site remote
30 from said local site; and

bi-directional telecommunication means for connecting said local site and said remote site.

18. The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said image presentation device is selected from the group consisting of a video monitor, a computer monitor, a slide projector, a transparency projector, an overhead projector, and a printed-
5 paper projector.

19. The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said image-evaluating means are an electronic controlling device.

10 20. The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said parameter-determining means are a computer.

21. The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said bi-directional telecommunication means are selected from the
15 group consisting of electronic telecommunication means and optical telecommunication means.

22. The arrangement according to claim 21, wherein said bi-directional telecommunication means are selected from the
20 group consisting of a worldwide data transmission network, a leased or switched telephone line, and an optical data link.

23. A data processing system for the calibration of an electronic camera, wherein said data processing system
25 includes a display and an operating system, said data processing system comprising:

means for selecting an optical stimulus;

means for transmitting said optical stimulus via telecommunication means to the camera;

30 means for receiving via telecommunication means an image acquired by the camera;

means for evaluating said image;

means for determining parameters influencing the camera properties, depending on the evaluation of said image; and

means for transmitting said parameters via telecommunication means to the camera.

24. A computer readable medium, having a program recorded thereon, where the program is to make a computer execute procedure

to select an optical stimulus;

to transmit said optical stimulus via telecommunication means to a camera;

to receive via telecommunication means an image acquired by the camera;

to evaluate said image;

to determine parameters influencing the camera properties, depending on the evaluation of said image; and

to transmit said parameters via telecommunication means to the camera.

25. The method according to claim 11, wherein said local controller/interface device controls said image presentation device.

26. The method according to claim 25, wherein said local controller/interface device is connected to said image presentation device via a video interface.